

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11 on page 1 of the specification with the following.

Hitherto, there is known a cushion body of a vehicle seat which comprises a skin and a pad integrated with the skin. The skin comprises a sheet of covering material and a layer of wadding material which has π air-permeability lower than that of other parts and is laminated on the back of the covering sheet. Formation of the cushion body is carried out by causing a foaming resin material for formation of the pad to be foamed and integrated with the skin so as to come into contact with the wadding layer of the skin, to thereby form the pad which is integrated with the skin. In the cushion body which is produced in this way, impregnation of the foamed resin material into the wadding material is prevented from progressing by the low air-permeable wadding material. Therefore, the cushion body provides a soft or tender sitting feeling to the user (Japanese Utility Model Application Publication No. Hei. 3-35200).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 24 of page 1 and ending at line 9 of page 2 of the specification, with the following.

However, in the cushion body, if the air-permeability of the wadding material is less than $5\text{cc}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$, the air-permeability of the entire cushion body is lowered and the cushion body is easy to become considerably stuffy when the user sits on the seat. Also, in a case where the air-permeability of the wadding material exceeds $40\text{cc}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$, the impregnation of the foamed resin material into the wadding material is progressed, whereby the foamed resin material is excessively impregnated into the wadding material, so that a surface of the cushion body feels firm to the touch. For these reasons, there is proposed a seat cushion in which wadding material having π air-permeability of ~~$5-40\text{cc}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$~~ $5 - 40\text{cc}/\text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ is employed (Japanese Utility Model Application Publication No. Hei. 5-3305).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 on page 2 of the specification with the following.

The inventors of the present invention zealously investigated such a skin integrated foamed product with a view to providing a skin integrated foamed product for a vehicle seat in which even if impregnation of an foamed resin material into wadding material is progressed to a certain degree, a surface of the skin integrated foamed product feels soft or tender to the ~~tough~~ touch and which can provide a good sitting feeling to the user and can be positively prevented from becoming considerably stuffy.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 17 on page 2 of the specification with the following.

As a result, the inventors have found that even if a wadding material having such ~~an~~ air-permeability as to be hesitated to be allowed in the foregoing in respect to stuffiness is employed, it is possible to provide a skin integrated foamed product for a vehicle seat in which a surface of the skin integrated foamed product feels soft or tender to the ~~tough~~ touch, and which can provide a good sitting feeling to the user and can be positively prevented from becoming considerably stuffy.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at first line on page 3 of the specification with the following.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a skin integrated foamed product for a vehicle seat in which a surface of the skin integrated foamed product feels soft or tender to the ~~tough~~ touch, and which can provide a good sitting feeling to the user and can be positively prevented from becoming considerably stuffy.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 6 on page 3 of the specification with the following.

In accordance with the present invention, there is provided a skin integrated foamed product for a vehicle seat. The skin integrated foamed product comprises a skin and a layer of a foamed resin material integrated with the skin, the skin having a double layer structure which is formed of a sheet of covering material having an air-permeability, such as fabric, and a foamed slab having a considerably low air-permeability represented by the formula of $0 < \text{an air-permeation amount} \leq 1 \text{cc/cm}^2/\text{sec}$, and laminated on a back of the covering sheet as a layer of wadding material. In the skin integrated foamed product, a portion of the foamed resin material is impregnated into the foamed slab and forms a foamed resin-impregnated layer within the foamed slab, so that the skin and the layer of the foamed resin material are integrated with each other.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 18 of page 3 and ending at line 8 of page 4 of the specification, with the following.

In the skin integrated foamed product for the vehicle seat, the impregnation of the foamed resin material into the foamed slab is suppressed by the foamed slab which has a the considerably low air-permeability represented by the formula of $0 < \text{an air-permeation amount} \leq 1 \text{cc/cm}^2/\text{sec}$. Therefore, a surface of the skin integrated foamed product feels soft or tender to the touch and the skin integrated foamed product can provide a good sitting feeling to the user. In addition, the foamed slab is considerably low-permeable but slightly exhibits an air-permeability, so that the skin integrated foamed product can be prevented from becoming considerably stuffy, even if the user sits on the vehicle seat for a long time. Moreover, in the skin integrated foamed product for the vehicle seat according to the present invention, the portion of the foamed resin material is impregnated into the foamed slab, thus improving the integration of the skin and the layer of the foamed resin material. Thus, according to

the present invention, the skin integrated foamed product which is suitable for the vehicle seat can be obtained.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at last line of page 4 and ending at line 8 of page 5 of the specification, with the following.

In the illustrated example, as the covering material, there is employed an air-permeable material such as fabric, synthetic leather having ventilating holes, or the like. As the layer of wadding material 1b (hereinafter referred to as "foamed slab"), there is employed a foamed slab which has a considerably low air-permeability represented by the formula of $0 < \text{an air-permeation amount} \leq 1 \text{ cc/cm}^2/\text{sec}$ and has a thickness of about 3-4 mm (0.118-0.158 inch). As discussed above, the skin 1 has the laminated structure which is formed of the covering material sheet 1a and wadding layer 1b, so that the skin 1 has a double layer structure.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 9 on page 5 of the specification with the following.

Moreover, as the foamed slab 1b, there is preferably employed a foamed slab which is made of ether-system resin and the number of whose cell is about 45-55/25mm (45-55 per inch). The number of the cells of the foamed slab can be probed by microscopically examining the number of cells at a straight area of 25mm (1 inch) within the cell structure.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at 8 on page 6 of the specification with the following.

Referring now to Fig. 2, there is illustrated the skin integrated foamed product which is made in the above-mentioned manner and in which the pad 2 formed of the foamed resin material is integrated with the skin 1 and a portion of the foamed resin material is impregnated in the foamed slab 1b, whereby a foamed resin-impregnated layer 3 is formed within the foamed slab 1b. Moreover, the rate of the foamed resin-

impregnation into the foamed slab 1b is controlled in such a manner that a thickness of the foamed resin-impregnated layer 3 is restricted to about 20-30% of the thickness of the foamed slab 1b. Concretely, the foamed resin-impregnated layer 3 has a thickness of about 0.6-1.2mm (0.024-0.047 inch) with respect to the foamed slab 1b which has the thickness of about 3-4 mm (0.118-0.158 inch) and the considerably low air-permeability represented by the formula of $0 < \text{an air-permeation amount} \leq 1 \text{cc/cm}^2/\text{sec}$ as discussed above.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 21 of page 6 and ending at line 9 of page 7 of the specification, with the following.

In the skin integrated foamed product, the foamed resin-impregnated layer 3 is thin with respect to the thickness of the foamed slab 1b having the considerably low air-permeability represented by the formula of $0 < \text{an air-permeation amount} \leq 1 \text{cc/cm}^2/\text{sec}$, so that when the user sits on the seat which includes the skin integrated foamed product as the cushion body of the seat, the cushion body does not impart a stiff feeling and a bottoming feeling to the user. Also, the cushion body feels soft or tender to the touch and provides a good sitting feeling to the user, due to the presence of the foamed slab 1b. In addition, since the foamed slab 1b is considerably low ~~air-permeable~~ air-permeable but slightly exhibits ~~an~~ air-permeability, even if the user sits on the seat for a long time, the ~~seat~~ cushion body can be prevented from becoming considerably stuffy. Moreover, due to the presence of the foamed resin-impregnated layer 3, integration of the entire layers can be improved.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 7 and ending at line 9 of page 8 of the specification, with the following.

The cushion body of the vehicle seat according to the present invention and the cushion body of the conventional vehicle seat were made in order to compare the cushion body of the present invention with the conventional cushion body. The cushion body of the present invention includes a foamed slab which has ~~a~~ considerably

low air-permeability of $0.3 \text{ cc/cm}^2/\text{sec}$. The conventional cushion body includes the laminated structure which is formed of the sheet of covering material and the layer of wadding material. In terms of the degree of stuffiness caused by the user sitting on the seats and the degree of comfort, the comparison between the cushion bodies was made. The degree of stuffiness in the cushion bodies was judged by causing a sensing portion of a temperature sensor and a sensing portion of a humidity sensor to be stuck into the cushion body of the present invention on which the user sat and the prior art cushion body on which the user sat, and then measuring the temperature and humidity of the cushion bodies. The degree of comfort can be judged by the degree of the stuffiness. The measuring results are shown in Fig. 3 in which the stuffiness of the cushion body of the present invention which changes with the passage of time is indicated by black triangle-shaped symbols and the stuffiness of the conventional cushion body which changes with the passage of time is indicated by black round-shaped symbols. It can be seen from Fig. 3 that the conventional cushion body becomes remarkably stuffy with the passage of time, whereas the stuffiness of the cushion body according to the present invention can be suppressed even if the user sits on the seat for a long time. Thus, it can be seen that the cushion body according to the present invention can provide good comfort to the user.